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Approved For Release 2004/08/31 : CIA-RDP80R01731R001400050003-3

ER 8178

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24 MAR 1948

MEMORANDUM FOR: CHAIRMAN, RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD

SUBJECT: CIA Relationships in the Field of Scientific Research and Development

1. You will remember that, under date of 10 January 1947, an agreement for JRDB-CIG Cooperation in the Field of Scientific Intelligence was signed and agreed to by you and the then Director of Central Intelligence, Lieutenant General Hoyt S. Vandenberg. Since that time we have endeavored to build up our scientific intelligence potential, in the face of serious personnel handicaps, with a view to improving the scientific intelligence support to the research and development program.

2. Also, during the period of the past year, we have passed through a major process of reorganization and reorientation under the guidance of the National Security Council. Under the legal status we now enjoy, our missions and functions have a more positive direction and we feel we are now prepared to fulfill our duties with increasingly greater efficiency.

3. With the current understanding of our mutual problems and interests, and the passage of the National Security Act of 1947, I do not feel that a written agreement for mutual cooperation is necessary. However, if you feel such an agreement will improve working relations at all levels, I would subscribe to a revised agreement which would fit into the organizational and operational policies of both agencies, and the responsibilities placed on me by law.

4. Your comments relative to this matter would be appreciated.

OSD REVIEW COMPLETED

SIGNED:

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[redacted] dr
18 March 1948

Distribution:

Signer's copy ✓
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R. H. HILLEBERTER
Rear Admiral, USN
Director of Central Intelligence

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NATIONAL MILITARY ESTABLISHMENT
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

24 March 1948

MEMORANDUM TO THE DIRECTOR, CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

Subject: CIA-RDB Relationships in the Field of Scientific Research and Development.

1. This is in reply to your memo of 24 March 1948 concerning the agreement for cooperation in the field of scientific intelligence entered into between Lieut. General Vandenberg and myself. I agree that under the changed circumstances, this agreement is now obsolete. Whether we need a newly constructed agreement is in my opinion doubtful.

2. You may be assured that under any circumstances RDB will remain anxious to aid you in your affairs. In particular, we have a group of scientific consultants, which there is no necessity to duplicate, and I believe their advice can at times be of value to you. No great formality, however, appears necessary to facilitate such interchange at operating levels as may be desirable. The problem, however, as to organization and the like is primarily yours.

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3. RDB is in fact one of your clients, probably your principal client in the field of scientific intelligence. I believe you will not misunderstand me if I state that thus far I do not feel that the Board has been supplied with adequate scientific intelligence for its guidance. In fact some of this may indeed have been due to a lack of full accomplishment in aiding you on our part, so that I make the statement with confidence that I will not be misunderstood. It is, however, essential for our affairs that we have adequate scientific intelligence in which we can place full confidence.

4. I trust that the organizational changes which you are now making and other steps under consideration may result in all of your clients being completely served in connection with their needs so that they can act on your information with full confidence. Quite frankly, this matter of confidence in my opinion presents a problem which is also yours. I will, of course, not attempt to advise how it might be solved. However, I hope very much indeed that you are giving very close attention to the subject.

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5. In summary, RDB will be glad to continue to serve you as you proceed by making available scientific and technical consultation. If you believe that an explicit agreement is needed, I will be very glad to go into the matter with you. My primary hope is, however, that RDB will in the future receive full scientific intelligence for its purposes, and that it will be completely convinced that it can rely on that intelligence with full confidence.

Signed V. Bush.

V. BUSH,
Chairman

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